

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

V.A. AIR
(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA ROUTE)

DISPATCH NO. MGL-A-7167



TO : Chief, Foreign Division M

DATE: 1 August 1951

FROM : Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

SUBJECT: GENERAL — Operational

SPECIFIC — Operation V-11811(P) of GV C

REF: MGL-A-7182

Josef KURTMIER

1. Recent developments have given GV C hope that it may be possible to eliminate V-11811(P) and yet retain the plan in which he was earlier the central figure. V-12041 has decided to attempt to activate Hans MARTIN (cover name; see para. 1 c of MGL-A-5529), the brother-in-law of V-11811, through a friend of the latter. The friend lives in Pirna; V-12041 wants to meet him in Berlin at the beginning of August, when V-12041 plans to fly to Berlin. V-11811, who has been repeatedly invited by his friend to join a soccer club in Pirna, used this circumstance as the basis for a letter in which he asked his friend to come to Berlin, there to meet a man and discuss the possibility of this man's entering the Soviet Zone of Germany.

Josef KURTMIER
2. Using this cover story, V-12041 will attempt to bring the friend from Pirna together with Josef STEINER (cover name), who is expected to arrive in Pirna on board the Elbe steamer Vltava or the Labe II. The friend from Pirna will be asked to hand to STEINER letters written by V-11811 and addressed to his parents, his sister, and his brother-in-law. If it is true that the latter (Hans MARTIN) actually did deliver intelligence reports to V-11811 in the past, a cue-word should suffice to induce him to resume the practice. The reporting channel will then flow in reverse from MARTIN to STEINER to the friend from Pirna to West Berlin.

3. V-11811 has consented to this plan. The report on V-12041's trip to Berlin should be available about the end of August.

4. The following information about Josef STEINER was recently furnished us at our request:

- a. He works as a machinist on two vessels: Labe II (Elbe II) and Vltava (Moldau), shifting with the whole crew from one ship to the other.
- b. He makes one or two round trips a month.

2 - PDM
1 - COS
2 - File

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5. Case Officer's Comments:

a. We are pleased to note that there is a possibility of keeping this operation alive. CIC has informed us that Hans MARTIN was the source of useful reports in the past, and the remaining potential sources seem well-placed (a test pilot and an airforce instructor).

b. On the other hand, we fail to understand why GVC has not submitted the true name and the identifying data for the friend from Pirna, so that traces can be run before V-1241 exposes himself and the future operation to possible danger. We are making an immediate request for this information.

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